

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07

MC-02 /057 W

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R 102042Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6699

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

S E C R E T ASUNCION 0644

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PA

SUBJ: FY 77 MAP-M FOR PARAGUAY

REF: (A) SECDEF 281837Z JAN 76 (B) COMUSMILGP PARAGUAY

091700Z FEB 76

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY DOD (REF A) THAT OF TOTAL MAP MATERIEL LEVEL OF \$3 MILLION FOR LATIN AMERICA IN FY 77, ONLY APPROXIMATELY \$700,000 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COUNTRIES OTHER THAN BOLIVIA.

2. THE USMILGP PARAGUAY (REF B) HAS RESPONDED TO REFTTEL (A) DIRECTLY TO SECDEF WITH A REQUEST AND JUSTIFICATION FOR ALL AVAILABLE FY 77 MAP FUNDS. THE EMBASSY CONCURS IN THIS REQUEST.

3. FROM NEWS REACHING US FROM WASHINGTON WE CAN SEE THAT THE MAP-M PROGRAM IN LATIN AMERICA IS COMING TO AN END. WE HOPE THAT WE CAN COUNT UPON SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR PARAGUAY TO ENABLE US TO FINISH IN AS ORDERLY A MANNER AS POSSIBLE THE CIVIC ACTION ORINATION BUILDING PROJECTS IN WHICH WE HAVE BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED THROUGH MAP-M GRANTS. ALMOST ALL OF THE GRANT AID TO PARAGUAY FOR MANY

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YEARS HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DIRECTLY RELATED TO CIVIC ACTION PRO-

JECTS. THE ABRUPT CURTAILMENT OF ALL FUNDS FOR THESE PROJECTS WOULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE THEIR EXISTENCE. WHILE WE HOPE TO CHANNEL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FOR THESE PROGRAMS THROUGH FMS, BE LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO CONTINUE MANY OF THESE IMPORTANT CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT IN EAR-MARKING MAXIMUM AMOUNT POSSIBLE OF REMAINING LA MAP-M FUNDS FOR PARAGUAY IN FY 77.
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